

Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Board

Approved Minutes for May 8, 2003

Attendees:

Board Members:

Chairman Ralph Hambrick, Vice Chairman Sue Cecil, Louise Burke, Catherine Harold, John Pearsall, Greg Velzy and Jonathan Young.

Others:

Buzz Kraft (Richmond Raft), Lyn Lanier (Friends of James River Park), Alisia Penn (City of Richmond), Bill Trout (VA. Canal Society) and Ralph White (James River Parks).

Chairman Hambrick called the meeting to order and initiated a review of the minutes from the March meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

A series of announcements were disclosed including the scheduled implosion of the Brown's Island smoke stacks, ribbon cutting of the new Oregon Hill footbridge and fish stocking on Belle Isle.

Ralph White and Lyn Lanier advised the Board of the agreement regarding the Pump House. White communicated the absence of a consensus in regards to the long-term objective for the Pump House. Jonathan Young conveyed a concern that this absence would hinder fund raising efforts. Hambrick indicated that a new Historic Richmond Foundation committee would more than likely be tasked with attempting to forge such a consensus. Hambrick requested that a Board member consider representing the Board before said committee. Sue Cecil volunteered to do so.

Catherine Harold delivered a comprehensive presentation concerning the State Water Control Board's proposed Surface Water Management Area. Harold voiced a couple of concerns including the utilization of a fourteen-day rolling average and the Cartersville gauge. Subsequent discussion, the Board voted unanimously to submit a letter to the Water Control Board endorsing the concept though requesting a review of the concerns Harold communicated.

Hambrick and John Pearsall advised the Board of the most recent developments regarding the Riverside Drive stabilization project. Hambrick disseminated correspondence communicating an upcoming meeting scheduled for riparian owners.

Additional topics of conversation included the recent tree-cutting incident, canal artifacts, park achievements and recent discussions concerning an attempt to relocate a Coast Guard ship to the James River in the near proximity of the Annabel Lee.

Hambrick announced Louise Burke's intention to resign from the Board effective the end of the fiscal year. The Board engaged in a discussion regarding the appointment of a replacement.

The Board adjourned at 1:50.